# MAKING YOUR VOICE MATTER: YOUTH INPUT INTO LEGISLATIVE POLICY

24<sup>th</sup> Annual Peer Leadership Conference

11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Saturday November 17th, 2007 Room 813, Willows Mansion, Atlantic Oaks by the Sea Bar Harbor, Maine

11:15 a.m. Convene Workshop.

Introductions from LYAC members; Review of workshop agenda.

11:20 a.m. How youth input can impact legislative decision-making.

Brief explanation of LYAC's role in the Legislature; Review examples of how youth can provide input:

- Testify at public hearings for proposed legislation
- Contact their Legislators about issues/concerns
- Contact LYAC members about issues/concerns
- Attend LYAC meetings to discuss issues/concerns

### 11:25 a.m. Recently passed legislation that effect Maine's youth.

Examples of legislation proposed last session (2007) that effect Maine's Youth:

- An Act to Prohibit the Use of Electronic Devices by Minors While Driving (Enacted in 2007)
- Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Encourage School Administrative Units to Encourage Secondary School Students to Apply to College (Enacted in 2007)
- An Act to Establish Working Hours and Wages for Teenagers (Not Enacted, but expected to be re-introduced next year)

## 11:30 a.m. Getting Youth Input: Should schools have the authority to hold student's accountable for behavior outside of school?

Brief background on how this issue came to LYAC and why it is important; Review of selected audience responses to Keynote question; Hear optional testimony from workshop participants; Group discussion.

### 12:10 p.m. Conclusion: What LYAC will do with youth input.

Explanation of what LYAC will do with the input provided by conference participants; Review examples of what LYAC can do:

- Develop policy recommendations during meetings
- Present recommendations as testimony at public hearings
- Propose legislation in LYAC's report to the Legislature
- Meet with bill sponsors to discuss youth concerns

### 12:15 p.m. Adjourn

For further information, please contact:

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